

Message Text

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ORIGIN NASA-02

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK PRIORITY

KEFLAVIK AFB PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 068666

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 68666 ACTION OTTAWA COPENHAGEN
MOSCOW INFO THULE AFB ELMENDORF AFB EILSON AFB CSAF
SONDESTRON AFB MARCH 26 AND REPEAT TO PARIS 18 APRIL.

QUOTE

UNCLAS STATE 068666

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TSPA

SUBJECT: NASA ARCTIC EXPERIMENT PROGRAM, AIRCRAFT FLIGHTS

PASS NASA EUROPEAN REPRESENTATIVE

1. NASA PLANS UF NASA CV-990 AIRCRAFT THIS SPRING FOR
ARCTIC EXPERIMENT PROGRAM AS FOLLOWS:

(A) AIDJEX IS JOINT U.S./CANADIAN EXPERIMENT INVOLVING
MANNED AND UNMANNED STATIONS ON SEA ICE NORTH OF ALASKA
WITH OBJECTIVE TO COUPLE REMOTE SENSING MEASUREMENTS FROM
CV-990 WITH SURFACE MEASUREMENTS FOR DEVELOPMENT ICE
DYNAMIC MODEL IN TURN, FOR USE IN GLOBAL ATMOSPHERIC
MODEL.

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(B) BESMEX TO DEMONSTRATE REMOTE SENSING TECHNIQUES FOR
DEVELOPMENT OF PREDICTIVE ECOLOGICAL MODELS FOR MANAGE-
MENT AND CONSERVATION OF BERING SEA MARINE MAMMALS.

(C) POLAR ICE STUDIES TO DETERMINE MICROWAVE EMISSION CHARACTERISTICS OF GREENLAND ICE SHEET AND POLAR ICE AND RELATE TO NIMBUS SATELLITE DATA.

(D) RADAR OBSERVATIONS TO ACQUIRE SYNTHETIC-APERTURE RADAR DATA ON GREENLAND ICE LAYERING, CONFIGURATION AND SURFACE MOTION.

(E) ACQUISITION OF RADIOMETRIC DATA OVER OCEANS UNDER VARIOUS SEA-STATE AND METEOROLOGICAL CONDITIONS TO REFINER MICROWAVE PARAMETERS OF OCEAN.

(F) RADAR IMAGERY PROGRAM TO ESTABLISH RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN OCEAN WAVE CHARACTERISTICS AND RADAR IMAGES.

(G) SPECTRA STUDIES TO CORRELATE RADAR DATA WITH OCEAN WAVES MEASURED WITH AIRCRAFT LASER PROFILOMETERS.

2. MOST EXPERIMENTS OVER INTERNATIONAL WATERS BUT SEVERAL REQUIRE AIRBORNE OBSERVATIONS OVER NORTHERN CANADA, GREENLAND, AND NEAR SOVIET UNION.

3. BESMEX FLIGHTS, SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 2-7 FROM ELMENDORF AFB, WILL CONCENTRATE ON OBSERVATIONS WITHIN TWO CIRCULAR AREAS OF 120 NAUTICAL MILES RADIUS CENTERED AT 61 DEGREES 37 MINUTES NORTH, 174 DEGREES 56 MINUTES WEST AND 58 DEGREES 00 MINUTES NORTH, 164 DEGREES, 30 MINUTES WEST. FLIGHT PATTERN FOR FIRST AREA WILL BRING AIRCRAFT TO WITHIN 45 NM OF SOVIET LAND MASS. FLIGHTS TO BE FLOWN AT 3000 FT ALTITUDE DGM

4. FOR POLAR ICE STUDIES, AIRCRAFT WILL FLY NUMBER OF TRACKS ACROSS GREENLAND OVER TRANSECTS PREVIOUSLY UNDERTAKEN BY SURFACE INVESTIGATORS AND TEST SITES PLANNED FOR SPRING 1975. MICROWAVE SIGNATURES WILL BE RECORDED AT WAVELENGTHS WHICH WILL GIVE FURTHER UNCLASSIFIED

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INSIGHT AS TO NATURE OF CONSIDERABLE EMISSIVITY VARIATION ALREADY INDICATED BY NIMBUS SATELLITE AT WAVELENGTH OF 1.55 CM ACCORDING TO GEOGRAPHIC LOCATION ON GREENLAND ICE SHEET.

5. POLAR REGIONS RADAR OBSERVATIONS OF GREENLAND ICE LAYERING WILL BE OBTAINED IN CONJUNCTION WITH POLAR ICE STUDIES (PARA 4 ABOVE) DURING GREENLAND OVERFLIGHT OF APPROXIMATELY 5-6 HOURS STAGED FROM THULE.

6. POLAR FLIGHTS WILL BE CONDUCTED TO OBSERVE LINE PATTERNS FROM ALTITUDES BETWEEN 2,000 AND 35,000 FEET.

7. PLANS ALSO TO FLY TRANSECT FROM THULE TO NORTH

POLE TO POINT BARROW TO OBTAIN MORE COMPLETE PICTURE
OF MULTI YEAR ICE FLOWS SIZE DISTRIBUTION NOTED IN
EARLIER AIDJEX STUDIES.

8. TENTATIVE FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS FOLLOWS:

DEPART EIELSON AFB 0700 LT ADT APRIL 16
ARRIVE THULE AB 1710 LT GST APRIL 16

DATA FLIGHT OVER GREENLAND APRIL 17 OR 18

DEPART THULE AB 1000 LT GST APRIL 19
ARRIVE EIELSON AFB 1130 LT ADT APRIL 19.

TRANSECT FLIGHTS WILL BRING AIRCRAFT NEAR OR OVER
(DEPENDING ON ICE FLOES) ELLESMERE ISLAND OFF COAST OF
GREENLAND.

9. AIRCRAFT IS NASA CV-990, CALL NUMBER N712 NA.

10. 34 PERSONS WILL ACCOMPANY AIRCRAFT. ALL U.S.
CITIZENS EXCEPT DR. TADASHIA TABATA, PROFESSOR
UNIVERSITY OF HOKKAIDO, JAPAN, ARCTIC SCIENTIST ASSOCI-
ATED WITH AIDJEX.

11. ARRANGEMENTS FOR USE OF THULE BEING COORDINATED
THROUGH NASA/AMES AIR FORCE SYSTEMS COMMAND LIAISON
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OFFICE.

12. ALTERNATE EMERGENCY BASES ARE SONDRESTROM AIR
BASE, GREENLAND AND FROBISHER, CANADA.

13. PILOT WILL FILE NORMAL INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT PLANS.

14. FOR OTTAWA: PRINCIPLE CANADIAN PARTICIPATION IN
AIDJEX COORDINATED THROUGH POLAR CONTINENTAL SHELF
PROJECT. NASA UNDERSTANDS CANADIAN DEPARTMENTS OF
DEFENSE AND ENERGY, MINES AND RESOURCES ARE INVOLVED.
R. RANSEIER OF ENVIRONMENTAL CANADA COORDINATOR ON
GROUND TRUTH VERIFICATION.

15. FOR COPENHAGEN: PROFESSOR PREBEN GUDMANDSEN OF
ELECTROMAGNETICS INSTITUTE, TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY OF
DENMARK IS DANISH COUNTERPART ON GREENLAND ICE SHEET
PROJECT (GISP) (PARA 4 ABOVE).

16. FOR OTTAWA AND COPENHAGEN: REQUEST YOU SECURE
REQUIRED CLEARANCES PLUS OR MINUS 72 HOURS.

17. FOR MOSCOW: POST IS REQUESTED TO INFORM SOVIET AUTHOR-

ITIES OF PROPOSED FLIGHT NEAR THEIR TERRITORY. KISSINGER

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